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Column One
By
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School Begins For 320,000 Pupils Today

THE belief that Persia's oil is coveted by Russia is now held by only the few who needs must give a "Russian angle" to everything from Haj Amin el Husseini to a high wind in Jamaica. The Persians, for all their hints at the oil tanks, where the currency of international blackmail has been bandied about as commonly as at any other negotiations of the kind, have no illusions on this score and no hope of being able to sell their oil to Russia. It is even doubtful if the Russians have kept their enthusiasm for the oil deposits of Northern Persia for which, some years ago, they were ready to drill in a cooperative enterprise with the Government of Teheran on the basis of 51 per cent control to the Persians. They certainly have no intention of laying a thousand miles of pipeline through inhospitable territory with the object of drawing off the oil from the fields around the Persian Gulf.

BUT the Russians need oil. They need it desperately for civil consumption and have little to spare for the purpose of war, a fact which, wrote "The Times" the other day, "may have a not unimportant bearing on the issue of war and peace," especially as — again "The Times" — "the possibility of large net-to-net gains by imperialist expansion in any other direction can probably be disregarded." This factor in Russia's civil economy and war potential is worth study. The outcome should have a steady effect upon nerves kept strung to breaking-point by the howling dervishes of psychological warfare. Partly as a result of the destruction of many of the Russian oilfields or their occupation by the enemy, the Soviet's agricultural yield was brought near to starvation point during the last war. Lease-lend food helped the Russians out and lease-lend aviation spirit kept the Russian air force in the air. The war is no lease-lend for Russia in the next war.

NEXT to the United States, Soviet Russia is the world's biggest consumer of oil. She used up 40 million tons last year. That represents 50 imperial gallons a head of the population or roughly the same as throughout the whole of the Marshall Plan region and is a pretty fair pointer to what has happened in Russia. The vast increase in Soviet oil consumption is the result of four successive five-year plans and cannot be laid to rearmament try as you will. It is a direct consequence of the revolutionary changes in agriculture, of which the State grain farms and collective farms are 95 per cent (U.N. figures) mechanized. There were 7,000 agricultural tractors stations in the Soviet Union before the war, with an average of 60 tractors each. Today there are slightly less than 20,000 such stations and the demand for tractors is said to have grown with the amalgamation of collective farms into "agro-towns." Aside from agriculture, the demands of industry have grown and "freight carriage by motor transport has increased 2.3 times in 1950 compared with 1940." At the present rate of Russia's civil consumption of oil, it is reckoned that the Soviet plan to reach an oil output of 60 million tons by 1960 is still far short of the probable needs.

THESSE are plain facts and plain figures put together by plain experts who, if they do not expect to find a Soviet conspiracy coiled under every stone they kick out of their way, are at any rate not concerned to suggest that the Russians are any better than they should be. On the basis of these plain facts and figures it is a fair assumption that war would hopelessly dislocate Russia's economy and probably drive the people to hunger; and hunger's resentment, as the veterans of the Revolution know full well, can make short work of Governments. It is possible that oil is not a decisive factor in the issue of war and peace. The Soviet, to whom we attribute a cunning little short of genius and hardly complimentary to our own democratic wit, may, of course, have some devilish alternative up its abundant sleeve. But that seems improbable. Far more probable is it that the Russians do not want war because they cannot afford it.

Talal Named King of Jordan

AMMAN, Wednesday (Reuter). — Emir Talal, eldest son of the late King Abdullah, was proclaimed "His Majesty, King Talal I" of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan today. He will take the constitutional oath and be crowned after his arrival at Amman tomorrow morning.

The proclamation was drafted at a special Cabinet meeting yesterday, which decided to proclaim Talal King "after carefully studying all the medical reports on his health, as well as all the constitutional implications."

The proclamation was unanimously approved at an extraordinary joint session of both Houses of Parliament this morning.

The new King will be sworn in before both Houses of Parliament tomorrow, after being greeted by a delegation of Jordanian notables, including Giubb Pasha, an Iraqi delegation headed by Premier Nuri e-Said, and members of the diplomatic corps.

Thursday and Friday will be proclaimed public holidays throughout Jordan.

At a press conference before their departure today, Emir Talal reiterated that he had gone to the Swiss nursing home of his own free will. "On my return I shall strive to strengthen the friendly relations between Jordan and Switzerland," he added.

Sent to Desert

The 40-year-old Emir is now home from Switzerland, where he has been recovering from a mental breakdown. His brother, Emir Naif, who acted as Regent since King Abdullah's death, arrived in Geneva at the head of a delegation to accompany him home.

Emir Talal will be the second King of Jordan, succeeding his

Iran Decides To Postpone Ultimatum

BULLETIN
TEHERAN, Wednesday (Reuter). — The Persian Cabinet decided tonight to postpone sending a note to Britain demanding she should resume oil talks or face the expulsion of remaining British staff from Abadan and the oilfields.

Later he was appointed judge of a Tribal Court, and his share in the oilfield was given to his father's widow. He married the daughter of Abdullah's Court Chamberlain, Emir Jamil ibn Nasir, a Shiah Prince, and had one son, Emir Husain, in 1940.

Emotional Instability

This year, however, rumours of the Emir's emotional instability reached head with the report of an attack on Giubb Pasha, an attempted attack on his wife, then confined to an Amman maternity ward. Even earlier it was generally known that he had had a breakdown of his father, and on very hostile terms with his brother Naif. His attitude was expressed by a consistent opposition of "British rule," as he called it, in Trans-Jordan. It was generally considered that following his attack on Giubb Pasha he was ordered to Abadan and later to Switzerland by his father.

He was abroad when his father was assassinated.

**IMPERIALIST TERROR
SAYS THE MUFTI**

CAIRO, Wednesday (UP). — The ex-Mufti of Jerusalem yesterday warned, "Death to the tyrants," in denouncing the execution in Amman of four men, including his cousin, for plotting the assassination of King Abdullah of Jordan.

The Arabs will not forget this imperialist campaign of terror," Haj Amin el Husseini said, reiterating his charge that the Amman trial was a farce staged at the instigation of Giubb Pasha.

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Japan Parley Quashes Russia on Rules & China

SAN FRANCISCO. Wednesday. — The Japanese peace conference today overwhelmingly approved the tough set of "gas" rules to limit the debate and block Russian efforts to drag out the conference. The rules, drafted by the U.S. and Britain, were adopted by a vote of 43 to three, with only Russia, Poland and Czechoslovakia opposing.

The conference voted 47 to two against Polish proposals to turn the rules question over to a committee.

Earlier, the Western powers broke up Russia's first big attempt to torpedo the Japanese peace conference, and voted 45 to 3 against Russia's demand that the invitation of the Chinese People's Republic to the meeting be considered.

Under it Japan would return to "friendly association" with the Allied powers as a sovereign equal.

Some observers believed he would insist on a new conference site if the conference was to resume.

Tonight, Peking radio broadcast claimed more evidence had been found to support Communist claims that U.N. bombers had dropped high explosives on the Kao-ning neutral area.

Pyongyang Charges

PONGYANG, North Korean radio said the U.S. wanted the Kao-ning talks to break down so it could rearm Japan and continue the Korean war.

Medium bombers used radar to pound key marshalling yards through heavy ground mist. Hundreds of vehicles and many trains were shot up in the Wonsan Port area on the east coast.

Hedge-hopping fighter-bombers sealed rail tunnels by causing landslides with bombs and rockets.

An Eighth Army spokesman announced that about 15,000 Communists were killed, 9,000 wounded and 1,000 taken prisoner in Korea in August.

**SOUTHERN WAR GAMES CUT
SHORT AS LESSONS LEARNED**

BY STEVE SHAPIRO,
POST MILITARY CORRESPONDENT
SOMEWHERE IN THE
SOUTH, Wednesday. — The Army war games in the south ended this morning, after the defending Blue force in a quick night operation, surrounded and practically cut off an advanced armoured column of the attacking Greens, which had penetrated Blue territory on Sunday.

As the lesson from this phase of the manoeuvres was clear, the judges decided to cut it short. The next phase will be held soon.

**MARAUDERS KILL
MAN AT ELATH**

ELATH, Wednesday (ITD). — The foreman of the Israel Quarry Co. here, Mr. Zvi Yerushalmi, 22, was killed by infiltrators yesterday afternoon. His wife was seriously injured. They were on an inspection tour in a jeep.

The marauders stole all the couple's personal possessions. The wife was given first aid at Beer Ora nearby.



Mapam Split on Cabinet Issue

THE Mapam Central Committee will be convened not later than Sunday to vote on the question of whether the Party should join a broad Government coalition under Mr. Ben Gurion. The Party's Political Committee will submit proposals.

This was decided last night at a meeting of the 40-man Political Committee in Tel Aviv, after reports were heard from Mr. J. Galli and Mr. J. Barzilai on the discussions with the Prime Minister on foreign affairs and from Mr. M. Benovov on domestic and economic issues.

The Political Committee meeting was inconclusive and the body will be convened again before Sunday to draw up its resolution. The Committee will split on the question, and Galli appeared to be in favour of a unanimous recommendation.

The Prime Minister spent half an hour yesterday in con-

ference with Mr. Moshe Shafrazi, the Minister of the Interior, who appeared on behalf of HaPoel Hamizrahi.

In a statement to THE POST, Mr. Moshe Koen, one of the Progressive Party leaders, said last night that his party was reluctant to participate in a "small coalition," but that it would vest confidence in such a Government.

Mr. Koen denied, however, that a final decision had been made in the matter, and indicated that much depended on how much of each party's four-point demand would be accepted.

The demands are:

1. Reorganization of the educational system in two tracks, religious and secular, both of which would be under State control.

2. Reorganization of the Civil Service from the political arena by picking active party membership in Government offices.

3. Reorganization of the economy between the private and cooperative sectors. To achieve this, certain changes would have to be attained in the top ranks of the economic ministries.

4. Government control of labour exchanges.

The official announcement on the Cabinet meeting follows:

"At its weekly meeting in Jerusalem yesterday, the Government heard a description of the condition of the Hebrew University by Prof. Dr. Y. Nevo, its rector, and of the position of the Haifa Institute of Technology and the Weizmann Institute.

The air transport agreement between Israel and Turkey was approved.

The Chairman of the Committee on Wages and Salaries of Government employees presented the Committee's report, which the government will discuss at its next meeting.

The Minister for Works Affairs reported on the Security Council's report on the situation in the Gaza Strip and on the progress of negotiations on the U.S. grant-in-aid.

The main force would be advanced, moved up the coastal mountains and made a final assault.

A continued advance of a reduced pace and finally halted for lack of supplies. The Blue forces

